

From the Editors



We had a very busy summer, which in part explains the delay in getting this issue to the printers. First we attended the annual International Ballad Conference, held this year at the University of Wales in Cardiff, and then we went to Whitby (on the north Yorkshire coast) for the Folk Week. This festival boasts, with good reason, that it is the best place anywhere to hear a wide variety of genuinely traditional English folk music. The quality of the singing at the daily ballad workshops is truly amazing. The Traditional Song Circle was giving a series of presentations as part of the festival, and we ended up giving three talks (illustrated plentifully with sung examples): on “Mining Songs of British Columbia”, “Maud Karpeles’ Collecting in Canada”, and “The Lucy Broadwood/Frank Kidson Collaboration”.

Both Cardiff and Whitby were great experiences but there were two negatives to our trip, in addition to our neglect of this issue: it rained pretty much all the time we were in the U.K. (much worse than normal, that is), and we had to miss the first traditional music festival organized by John Bartlett and Rika Ruebsaat in Princeton, BC, not to mention the several commercial ‘folk music’ festivals in Alberta that we often check out each summer. So now we have belatedly put our shoulders to the wheel in the hope of getting an issue out in time for the CSTM conference in Halifax this November, but it is beginning to look as though we will miss even that deadline. So this issue may end up as more a Christmas present than anything else. Such is life. Well, whenever you get it we are sure you will enjoy the pieces by Michael Asch, Tim Rogers, and Lorne Brown, as well as Rosaleen’s column on Child ballads, John’s archival treasures, and our usual clutch of book and CD reviews. We understand that a longer, more academic, version of Michael’s article may appear in the (renamed) successor to the *Canadian Journal for Traditional Music*, for which we wait with considerable anticipation.

David & Rosaleen Gregory

The editorial address of *Canadian Folk Music/Musique folklorique canadienne* is 4907 - 54 St., Athabasca, AB, Canada T9S 1L2

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